

THE  
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LITERATURE.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

*A History of the Life of Richard Cœur de Lion.* By G. P. R. JAMES, ESQ., author of "The History of Charlemagne," "Life of Edward the Black Prince," &c.

We are proud in being able to congratulate our country that the memory of one of its greatest heroes has at length found a pen every way worthy to record the wonderful actions which he achieved, and to show how far the physical and mental superiority of one human being can be elevated above the rest of his cotemporaries. In perusing the two volumes that have just been published, we are at a loss to point out that particular feature of excellence which most challenges the attention. Perhaps veracity is the most valuable quality that should distinguish the efforts of the historian, for, without veracity, all the graces of composition become worse than useless, as they tend only to propagate that which is false, and consolidate and perpetuate the reign of error. The truth of ancient chronicles can only be arrived at, or even approximated, by the most patient investigation, an investigation enlightened by learning, and guided by the strictest impartiality. In this particular no author, either ancient or modern, ever excelled Mr. James, and certainly, in this respect, no present or recent author has approached him. Endued with a clear perception, reasoning powers of the highest order, and a faculty of discriminating, we may almost designate as intuitive, no one is more skilful in unravelling the intricacies of contradictory statements, and in eliciting facts, even from under the masses of falsehood which political and religious prejudices have heaped upon the truth. He knows, also, when and where to doubt, and possesses that magnanimity, so uncommon in an author, which leads him to confess a difficulty, to hesitate before he pronounces a dictum, and to acknowledge a subject to be beyond his depth of penetration. Guarded thus by caution, undazzled by the false glory of factitious

display, and singularly free from prepossession, that which he affirms we do not hesitate to believe, that which he denies to reject, and when he doubts, it would be something more intemperate than rashness to decide. Nor are these more substantial and graver attributes of the historian unaccompanied by those charms of composition that so much enliven mere statements, and give to the heaviest matter-of-fact the charm that usually waits upon the creations of imagination. Avoiding, on the one hand, the caustic and sarcastic style of Gibbon, his occasional magniloquence, and the false glitter of his antitheses, and, on the other, the dogmatical though perspicuous brevity of Hume, he combines all that is clear, forcible, and elegant in both of these accomplished authors. Seldom indulging in metaphor, whilst he appears to neglect the meretricious ornaments of oratory, he is beautifully eloquent, and the mind of the reader is filled with ideas, whilst, at the same time, his imagination is excited, and his taste refined. We never before met with so much information so gracefully embodied in so small a compass. We will now, turning from generalization, say something of the detail of these two volumes. They are opened by an introduction extremely valuable in itself, and absolutely necessary to be studied for the fully comprehending and enjoying the history which follows. It is an elaborate and most enlightened treatise on the feudal and chivalrous institutions of Europe about the time of the lion-hearted Richard. These institutions are discussed in the ablest and most philosophical manner, and tend to throw a sort of mid-day light upon an epoch of the history of the world hitherto involved in partial obscurity. Feudalism and chivalry, as understood, acted upon, and abused by our ancestors, were not without their uses, and amalgamated well with the advancing yet still imperfect civilization of the day. In the first volume, with the exception of the latter part of it, very little is mentioned concerning the hero of the work. The author is clearing the way for his appearance on the stage, by narrating the leading events of the life of Richard's father, Henry II. This monarch was a clever man, and a strange compound of the worst vices and the best virtues. His conduct was, on the whole, very beneficial to the barbarous population over whom he ruled. Very little is said by Mr. James of the infancy and boyhood of Richard, and that little is presumed rather than ascertained. He was not, however, that rough, uncultivated being which it pleased Sir Walter Scott to represent him. It is, however, certain that he more cultivated his physical than his mental qualities. His first actions before the world, augured well of his future glory, though performed at the early age of nineteen. We will say nothing of that indelible stain upon his reputation, his cruel and unnatural rebellion against the most indulgent of fathers. About the time, or shortly after, he had acquired his early renown, by the reduction of his revolted personal dominions, into the possession of which he had generously been installed by Henry, that king became involved in his struggle with Thomas à Becket. The whole quarrel is as beautifully as it is philosophically narrated by Mr. James. Its termination and its consequences are well known to every one the least conversant with English history; yet, as our author's version of the concluding scene of the factious

and rebellious priest's life is very minute and circumstantial, and not quite so dignified as it is generally supposed to be, we will present it to our friends.

"The barons and their followers now rushed forward and seized him, and endeavoured to drag him out of the church, most probably with the purpose of killing him in a less holy place, but Becket resisted; and being a strong man, they could not force him from one of the columns of the choir, to which he clung. The struggle excited the passions of all: and unhappily Becket at that moment once more forgot the high and dignified demeanour which had characterised his latter actions, and as Fitzurse pressed harder on him than any of the rest, the archbishop thrust him violently from him, and called him by an opprobrious name. The baron, furious at the insult, drew his sword, and aimed a blow at the head of the prelate. All the archbishop's followers had fled but one devoted friend, his cross-bearer, who, seeing the descending blow, while Becket crossed his hands and bowed his head to receive it, weakened its force by interposing his arm, which was broken, and nearly severed from his body. So heavy was the stroke, however, that notwithstanding this obstacle, it dashed off the archbishop's cap, and wounded him on the head. No murmur broke from his lips; and only recommending his soul to God, he remained firm in the same position, with his hands clasped and his head bent, till, after enduring a second blow unshaken, a third laid him upon the pavement, without a groan. The butchers then mangled the dead body with repeated wounds; and one Hugh of Horsea, a subdeacon, who had joined the other conspirators at Canterbury, had the horrible brutality to scatter his brains about with the point of a sword."

The consequences of this unexpected, and, by Henry, deeply-deplored assassination, proved beneficial to himself, and highly advantageous to his kingdom. Even the weakness of his penance for an act to which he was no party, and which he so entirely condemned, proved, and was intended to be, a master-stroke of policy. Bringing together the different accounts of co-existing events into one stream, Mr. James prepares the theatre for the display of Richard, where he appeared to the greatest advantage, in the wars misnamed "holy." He gives a vivid description of the preparations for the Crusades, of the immense loss of life that ensued ere a blow could be struck against the infidels, of the selfish and treacherous conduct of the Greek emperor, and of the turpitude of the lives and actions of those who piously fought in these saintly wars. The following is a part of the description of the first battle between the armies of the opposing faiths. The Saracens commenced the action with flights of clouds of arrows, that killed thousands of the Christians, and retired at each discharge, the whole of their force being cavalry, and of a description much lighter and more fleet than the heavily-accoutred men-at-arms.

"Boemond drew up his army to oppose the Turkish cavalry, mingling horse and foot together. The infidels came on at rapid pace, with shouts and cries and the clangour of drums and trumpets, and the crusaders prepared to resist them as they would have resisted other Frankish combatants; but while yet afar, each Turkish horseman raised a bow of horn above his head, a thick cloud seemed to darken the sky, and in a moment a dense shower of arrows dropped among the ranks of the Christians. Many of the pilgrims who filled up the ranks of Boemond were but half armed; and of the chargers which bore the men-at-arms, a great number were unprotected by defensive armour, so that thousands of men and



horses were instantly stretched upon the plain, either slain or wounded by the Turkish arrows. A second flight followed the first, with barely a moment's interval; and such great confusion ensued, that it would appear it was with difficulty that the leaders rallied their troops."

Had the Turks persevered in these tactics, the invaders would have been destroyed in this the first encounter. But, emboldened by the slaughter which they had carried into the ranks of the Europeans, they proceeded to close with them, and the consequence was that they were completely routed and dispersed with a terrific carnage. After several towns of no note had been taken, the Christian forces sat down to the siege of Antioch, and there the first of a series of terrible disasters—hunger, disease, the fruits of a wasteful extravagance and a revolting debauchery—wasted their ranks, disunion and an insane ambition divided their councils, and a burning sun and enervating climate enfeebled their frames.

"Several bodies of crusaders abandoned the army, and took refuge in the different Christian states that still existed in the neighbourhood of Antioch. Some pursued their way back to Constantinople, some sought out Baldwin, some offered their services in towns which had been freed from the Turkish yoke. The Count de Melun, known by the name of William the Carpenter, attempted to fly for the purpose, it would seem, of finding more profitable and less tedious adventures than the siege of Antioch; and Peter the Hermit himself gave way amid famine, privation, and neglect, and sought to quit a camp where he was treated with less distinction than his zeal, courage, and services really merited. The count and the hermit, however, were met together by Tancred, while they were endeavouring to effect their flight, and brought back with shame: but the most painful act of desertion which was to occur, did not yet take place."

Great indeed must have been the disorganization of the army, when the apostle of the Crusades himself thus basely deserted the cross which he had been almost the sole cause of elevating in these hostile regions. The battles and skirmishes before the walls of Antioch proved an ample field for the exhibition of individual prowess.

"All the figures which the imagination can supply are exhausted by contemporaries, to represent the sweeping manner in which the crusaders destroyed their enemies; but amongst the achievements of the individual leaders, one act of Godfrey, in regard to which all the authorities are so generally agreed, that we are forced to receive the statement in its literal sense. While that prince was defending the pass towards the bridge, a Turkish horseman of great height and strength, whom Robert the monk compares to Goliath, spurred on his horse, we are told, upon the Duke of Lorraine, and at one blow cleft his shield in two. Godfrey returned the stroke, aimed at the head of his adversary; but the infidel turned aside, and the blade catching him on the left shoulder, clove its way through, and came out just above the right hip, leaving one half of the Turk prostrate on the field of battle, while the left arm and the lower part of the body was borne by the horse to the gates of the city."

Before the city was taken, despair had nearly dissolved the host before it, when treachery on the part of the Saracens effected that upon which all their most strenuous efforts had been exhausted with no other result than their own vexation and discomfiture. The city was betrayed. When the Franks had thus gained it, they found



themselves surrounded by wealth, and possessed of countless treasures of barbaric gold; but they found nothing wherewith to sustain life, and they would have perished amidst the glory of their conquest, and the abundance of their riches, which they could not enjoy, had not the indignation of their enemies relieved them from their difficulties, and prepared their way for future achievements. The sultan of Persia, with an immensely superior army, circumvented them without, whilst famine was destroying them rapidly within. He permitted them unmolested to come out from their den of famine.

"The battle immediately commenced by Godfrey and Hugh of Vermandois, with the forces of Lorraine attacking the main body of Kerboga's army; and with such vehemence, skill, and courage did the duke make his onset, that the vizier himself was driven back nearly to his camp, and victory seemed hovering over the banners of the cross. At that instant the dry grass and reeds which had risen from the marshy land in the neighbourhood of the gates of Antioch were fired by the orders of Soliman to cover, in the smoke and blaze, the movements of the Seljukian horse; and then took place that tremendous charge of cavalry, which, casting the troops of Boemond into disarray and confusion, had well-nigh extinguished the flame of the crusade in the heart's-blood of the Christian soldiery. Tancred, however, flew to the assistance of his cousin, Hugh of Vermandois hastening to aid the forces of Apulia; Godfrey, leaving a large part of his troops to carry on the combat with Kerboga, hurried to the spot where the greatest danger existed; and the Bishop of Puy, advancing with his division, supplied the vacancy which this movement on the part of Godfrey had produced in the army of the crusaders. Thus stood the battle, when superstition came to the aid of valour and skill. Whether it was the force of imagination, or some happy accident, or one of the skilful combinations of priestly craft, can hardly now be told; but a body of men were seen coming over the mountains to the aid of the Christians. Fancy or art had arrayed them in garments of resplendent white. Angels were said to be fighting in the ranks of the cross, and the redoubted battle-cry of 'God wills it! God wills it!' once more thundered over the field. Soliman and his multitudes were driven back, the centre were thrown into disorder; the vizier's left wing wavered; and at the same moment the terrible news spread far and wide that the Franks had found their way into the Mussulman camp.

"Terror and confusion and disgraceful flight succeeded; the vizier himself hurried from the field of battle; Soliman once more fled; the Christians, mounting the horses of the slain or captured Turks, urging the pursuit under the command of Tancred for many miles, and drove the enemy across the Orontes. The stream flowed with the blood of the infidels, and the number of slain must have been tremendous. Robert the Monk, who was present, assures us that a hundred thousand of the horsemen fell upon the part of the Turks, between the city of Antioch and the iron bridge; and that the foot who were killed were not counted. Others reduce the numbers to sixty-nine or seventy thousand men, both horse and foot; and the Arabian, Remaleddin, would fain persuade his readers that few besides the rabble and the foot-soldiers were slain by the crusaders. He admits, however, that the slaughter was terrible; and Abou-yali and Ibngiouzi are too much surprised and astounded by the unexpected victory of the enemy, to attempt to diminish the marvellous success of the Christian host."

With this description the second volume concludes. During all the transactions recounted, as yet, Richard Cœur-de-Lion hardly makes his appearance, but everything is made ready that he may issue upon

the stage with that eclat which his great actions and subsequent glory demand. We feel assured that the proposed history will be complete, and leave nothing on this subject for future writers to perform, or for the world to desire. We have no doubt but that the reputation which Mr. James will acquire will urge him to record other portions of our history, and thus, like Hume, be insensibly led on to make a complete work, or at best to bring it down to no very distant times. We look forward, therefore, with some impatience, but with complete confidence, for the next volumes in continuation of these before us. All that is most interesting in the life of his hero is yet to come, and that it will be received with a welcome as deserved as it will be universal, all the past writings of this highly-gifted author is more than a sufficient guarantee.

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*Lights and Shadows of London Life.* By the author of "Random Recollections of the Lords and Commons," "The Great Metropolis," &c. &c. 2 vols.

Mr. Grant, the author of these two valuable and instructive volumes, has already made that favourable impression on the public, which must always entitle any work that he may produce to a cordial welcome and an extensive circulation. His former works, to use a technical expression, have had a great run, and are still in very great demand, and this before us must not only win an unlimited approbation for itself, but increase also the sale of its precursors. In fact, these lights and shadows may be looked upon as a necessary appendage of "The Great Metropolis," or rather as a continuation of that very popular production. Every one must be aware that the subjects arising from and depending upon our wonderful city are inexhaustible; volumes may be multiplied on volumes, and still more left to say than has been said. The selection is the difficulty, and in this the author's merits are pre-eminent. He commences his very amusing volumes by treating of quacks and quackery—it forms at once a painful satire and a laughable commentary upon the gullibility of the human race, and more particularly of that portion of it which, when in a good temper, rejoices under the generic title of "John Bull." Mr. Grant advances an opinion, that every man is more or less the quack. This may be stretching a principle a little too far; and yet, when we look around us, and into his book, we cannot altogether deny his proposition. His chapter on beggary and begging impostors is laughable as a comedy, and yet it is a true and sorrowful picture of one of the worst cankers eating into the very heart of social life. We firmly believe that men exercise more ingenuity to become unsuccessful poor rascals, than ever would be required to make them prosperous persons of substance. The whole of that portion of the work which treats on this painful subject is a study for the political economist, the philosopher, and the philanthropist. There is something of which we were partially ignorant until we had read this work—the great extent of individual bounty which silently and unobtrusively pervades this capital. It gives us much pleasure to offer our readers the following extract—as

that of a gentleman of the most unquestioned veracity, its truth may be relied on.

"But it were a great omission on my part, if having engaged to treat of the subject of metropolitan benevolence, I were not to draw attention to the *private* benevolence, or the benevolence of individuals, which obtains amongst us.

"There are thousands of persons of both sexes in London, whose unceasing aim is to diminish the woes of their fellow-creatures. In imitation of their Divine Master, they unceasingly go about doing good. From morning to night, from the commencement to the close of the year, the object ever present to their minds is, how they can best promote the happiness of their fellow-creatures. Little do the public in many cases know the obligations under which suffering humanity lies to the sympathies and unwearied exertions of private philanthropists. Often, indeed, are the very persons who are blessed by their benevolence, ignorant of the hand that ministered to their wants, relieved their woes, and soothed their sorrows. Many of the greatest and most useful of our benevolent institutions owe their existence to the silent and unseen, yet untiring endeavours of one or two private individuals. With them the idea has originated, and to them belongs the unspeakable glory of having put matters in a train for the construction of the mighty machinery, by which the institutions are to be worked."

This is certainly flying in the face of the recommendations of the poor-law commissioners, but it is justifiable by an authority which, as yet, it is not made a legal crime to obey—that of the Holy Scriptures. This is one of the "Lights;" we will now exhibit, in our author's language, one of the "Shadows" of metropolitan life; for although it conveys nothing new, it cannot be kept too constantly before the public eye. The author calculates that there are no less than fifteen thousand young females who obtain a living as dress-makers' assistants.

"The usual hour at which dressmakers' assistants commence their labours is seven in the morning, and that at which they close for the day is eleven at night. One half hour more elapses before they retire to rest, and in order to be ready to resume their needle at seven in the morning, they must at least get up by half-past six. The average amount of time, therefore, which is allotted them for rest does not exceed seven hours. This would be obviously too little for delicate females—especially at that critical time of life at which by far the largest portion of these girls are apprenticed—even were their labours light and of short duration during the day. But the very reverse is the painful fact: they ply the needle without a moment's intermission, save the twenty or thirty minutes allowed for their meals, from the time they enter the work-room until they have quitted it for the night.

"In addition to the injurious effects of these protracted hours of exhausting employment on the bodily health and spirits of these girls, they are pent up during the day in heated rooms, where the luxury of a mouthful of fresh air is seldom enjoyed. Their meals, too, which are entirely of a coarse description, and altogether unfitted for the subdued and delicate appetite of creatures thus employed in sedentary labour from morn to night, are snatched up with an expedition which deprives their food of half its nutritive qualities. Air and exercise are unknown to them, and, to aggravate the physical hardships of their condition, they are, in the majority of cases, subjected to insults and to irritating language from those in whose employment it is their hard lot to be."



The author proceeds to give many instances of the most heartless cruelty to these unhappy young creatures. We shall conclude this subject by extracting the following revolting case.

“On urgent occasions, such as a drawing-room, a ball, or other greater display at court, the hardships of the poor assistants are increased ten-fold. It is near midnight of the second night of working, when they should have been sleeping, and they are to sit through the whole of this night and next day, making three days and two nights of incessant sewing; an occupation which cannot be safely pursued for more than a few hours at a time. These girls are fed high; roast beef, porter, port wine, are supplied them; the rooms are kept light and hot, every stimulant is applied. Three at once drop off their chairs fainting; they are plied with strong green tea, and they resume their work. As often as they are sinking, more green tea is given them; their eyes are dim, their skin burns, their hands tremble, their voices are hysterical, but the ball-dresses are finished, and that was the object to be obtained.”

We know of no remedy for this. It is beyond the reach of legislation, for sumptuary laws are laughed at if ridiculous, and evaded if just. They always trench upon the liberty of the subject, and generally prove to be a harassing obstruction to trade. All this makes out the conduct of the employers of these martyred females the less reprehensible than that of their abettors, their customers, who are acquainted with these disgraceful facts. The mischief lies in the superabundance of labour in this department. The dreadful alternative is held out to the poor girls either of being worked or of being starved to death—they select the more protracted operation. The appeal to the philanthropy, the conscience, the Christianity of the fashionable world is as senseless as it is useless. Were every attendant upon a party or ball obliged every morning to repeat Mr. Grant's statement, every night there would not be a costume less, and fine ladies and gentlemen would continue just in the same manner to dance, and milliners' workpeople to die. A society of great ladies might do some good, but it must consist of very great ladies indeed. If such were to come to a resolution of employing only those artistes who treated their women as if they were human beings, we much fear that, when business pressed, the employment of such exterminating hours of work would be removed no farther than from under the roof of the priestesses of fashion. But we must quit this disagreeable and distressing subject, and revert to that of the society of Friends. Our author is very elaborate on the Quakers. They bear him out in his principal and first corollary; that all mankind are QUACKS. They are the very personification of pretension. They pretend to more morality, more decorum, and more austerity than their fellow-men, and to prove this pretension they segregate from them. The pretension to no pretension, in the simplicity of their discourse and dress, is one of the most remarkable of their vanities. We believe them to be a most worthy class of beings, not on account of all this, but in despite of it—but we think them to be fairly accusable of a very bad taste. Mr. Grant will tell the reader all that it befits the uninitiated on this matter to know. And then the Jews and their fair; he is equally eloquent on the fair with the nose aquiline, and the Fair of Rags. He has unfolded to view the whole arcana of their domestic

policy. In fact, this part of his work rises into the importance of history. We must, however, conclude. No one can be properly acquainted with London, without having read these volumes, nor fully comprehend the different phases of human life, as exhibited in crowded cities, without studying them attentively. The author has done his part well.

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*An Account of the Settlements of the New Zealand Company, from Personal Observation during a residence there.* By the Hon. HENRY WILLIAM PETRE.

Much as we are inclined to respect this account, we cannot but think that, in some degree, it is an ex-parte statement, and coloured engagingly in order to advance the prices of the shares of the Company. Certainly it paints the present aspect and the future capabilities of these islands in more glowing colours than they have yet been described in any publication with which we have met. We do not hesitate to declare that we believe all that Mr. Petre has said is accurately true, so far as his knowledge is concerned—we have the truth, but not the whole truth—or other accounts have lied most shamefully. We need not go over all the details presented to us, for they announce, in a few words, that the settlement is all that man's heart can wish, or his mind conceive; in fact, that it is an Arcadia, a region created for the blest—and a profitable investment for ready money. Though we may doubt of the former in all its bearings, there is more chance of the latter being true, at least while the settlement is so well advertised. The public are aware, by this time, that these islands are now taken under the sovereignty of her Majesty; that episcopacy is now the law of the land, and that they are to be burthened with tithes. We cannot help thinking that the rights of the aborigines have been very cavalierly treated; and that it is an excellent thing for England that there is no known nation on the face of the earth so far advanced beyond us in civilization as we are beyond the New Zealanders. However, expediency works much better than morality, and declamation never yet overcame might. The Zealands are a province of England; let us rejoice therefore. But those who have lopped off from the natives so large a portion of the best of their soil do not altogether rejoice so much as we, as the Queen's representative has not elected their town of Wellington for the capital. Captain Hobson has established the focus of government at Auckland. Had he chosen the Company's town, New Zealand shares would have doubled in value. We believe that this work was written to compel Captain Hobson to make Wellington the capital of New Zealand. This point is assiduously laboured throughout the pamphlet. It certainly does seem to us, from its central position, as the best locality; although it shows at the same time with what animus this account is written. To our emigrating countrymen we say, by all means read it, but read it with caution.

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*Napoleon Portrayed ; an Epic Heroic Poem, in Six Cantos.*

Dedicated to the Duke of Wellington, the first canto of this patriotic poem has been given to the public. Taking this for a specimen, we argue very favourably of the entirety of the work. It opens at the period when Napoleon is about to meet with the first of his great misfortunes, in his invasion of Russia, and all his disasters of the terrible winter of 1812. This gives the poet the opportunity of describing the French army, the beautiful country to which it belonged ; and this very naturally leads to its commander Napoleon, of whom there is a rapid yet graphic description, and a brief summary of his youth. With the episodical license permitted to epic poetry, the author takes occasion to commemorate the brilliant exploits of Sir Ralph Abercromby, Sir John Moore, and Sir John Stewart ; he then passes to France, and describes the horrors of the French Revolution, the part which Bonaparte took in it, and his successful military interposition. It is thus that the dispersion of the national guards of that stormy period is described.

“ It is Napoleon !—He, as was his wont  
On grand occasions, planted, pointed, fired  
The foremost gun—dread signal of attack !  
At that portentous sound, peace heavenward flies ;  
The greedy vulture flaps her heavy wing ;  
Death opens wide his never-sated jaws ;  
Expansive hell enlarges her domain !  
The volumed smoke, which for a while obscured  
The horrid carnage, now blown far and wide,  
Napoleon bade the cannon instant cease :—  
‘ Reload with grape-shot, but reserve your fire ;  
Your work was ably done. Soldiers, advance !  
Charge, and pursue the flying enemy !’  
The ‘ Sacred Band’ obey with joyous cry ;  
Rushing tumultuous over heaps of slain,  
Whose carcasses—scorched, mangled, blackened, torn—  
Fragments of broken muskets, bayonets,  
(Shining no more)—impede the furious course  
Of these detested hell-hounds, breathing death ;  
Who oft, from point unseen, a piercing wound  
Sustain, and cursing stoop !—those from behind  
Unheeding, onwards press :—beneath their feet,  
The felon dies—hell closes on her prey !  
Five thousand chosen grenadiers succeed  
In stately march, disdainful, and complete  
Their task assigned ;—the sections are dissolved,  
Disarmed—dispersed—the proud Convention reigns !—  
France trembles ! mothers weep ! and orphans wail !—  
Such bright achievement merits high reward ;  
Barras appoints the able Corsican  
Commander of the army under him,  
Then to the chief command—where ardent zeal,  
Distinguished talent, and unceasing toil,  
Proclaim Napoleon Gallia’s future lord !”

With this energetic sarcasm the Canto ends. We look with an impatience, which we trust is shared by the public, for the continuation of this poem.



*D'Aubigné's History of the Reformation in the Sixteenth Century*  
Translated from the French by WALTER K. KENNY, Esq., of Trinity College, Dublin.

We have received the third part, containing the whole of the third volume of the original, as well as the two parts which preceded it. We have hitherto delayed and hesitated to notice them, seeing that at this moment theological hate is so rife, and religious dissensions run so high. The subject cannot, and ought not, lightly to be entered upon. It involves the peace and the well-being of millions, and we do not think that the points of disunion which separate those who profess the Christian faith should be heedlessly obtruded upon the public eye. When the work before us is completed, we shall enter into its merits at large, but in a spirit the most conciliatory which we can adopt, and endeavour to extend the feelings of good-will and harmony among all men.

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*The Patrician's Daughter ; a Tragedy in five acts.* By J. WESTLAND MARSTON.

This tragedy is dedicated, by permission, to Macready ; why then does not Macready dedicate it to the public by causing it to be acted ? We asked ourselves this question ere we began to read, and a perusal of the first act gave us the paltry answer, "the want of stage effect." But how abundantly is this want compensated for by all that is truly of the highest tragic beauty ? To our conception, Sheridan Knowles never equalled this tragedy, either in poetry or pathos, although his worst effort might act much better. In the first act of the "*Patrician's Daughter*," although replete with the charms of a correct versification, and the best attributes of poetry, it consists but of two scenes, each scene a dialogue, and these dialogues would strangely contrast with the costumes of the speakers in all the frippery of modern fashion. The heroine is all too metaphysical, and blank verse sits but awkwardly on the speakers of the present day, and sounds as strangely in a newly-furnished drawing-room. We are of opinion, that if all the first scenes had been given in the language of prose, they would not only have been more natural, but much more effective. In the whole of the first act, the author seems as if he were sawing through a block of granite, in order to open to our view the grand displays that are to burst upon us. After this, that heroic verse becomes that of nature, and the sentiment demands it. The plot possesses all the antique simplicity, the action is single, and the passions delineated, the strife between ancestral pride and revenge. The love is the mean of displaying them, and ultimately conquers both. Mordaunt, the hero, one

"Born to found, not boast, a generous race,  
No tenth transmitter of a foolish place,"

won his way up by his poetry and talents to that celebrity which makes his aid needful to one of the most aristocratic of the aristocracy. Invited to the peer's mansion, he loves and is beloved by his

only daughter. She first encourages his suit, and then spurns him. Five years afterwards he is accepted—and then he contemptuously throws her off in a most public manner. His rather brutal revenge slays her, and then his remorse makes the remainder of his life worse to him than death. The lesson is a bitter but a wholesome one, and the moral true. Each has a crime to expiate; and retribution is exacted to the uttermost. We give the following extract as a specimen of the author's manner. This is by no means the most exciting part of his drama, but is selected because it requires no context. Speaking of a poet, Mordaunt says,

“ Ah ! are you wrong ?

It is to have a quicker sense than most  
Of what should be, and deeper pain than most  
To see what is. It is to have a form  
Replete with life, and statues for companions ;  
To have for the most part a lonely lot,  
Yet noble in its solitude, and faithful  
To Truth, and Beauty whence its being drew,  
Knowing that they must reign at last ; oh ! then,  
Many a humble tenement wherein  
Great minds have wrought their task, and many a grave  
Inheriting their dust, shall be transformed  
To fanes, and altars, where the world shall worship.

“ MABEL.

“ You paint the scene too darkly, let me hope.

“ MORDAUNT.

“ If I speak truth I do, for there are times,  
But still of rare occurrence, when we meet  
With one fair as our visions, and whose mind  
The body emblems well ; from such a one  
Perchance we hear a word of sympathy ;—  
Then the dark earth grows homelike,—’tis such joy  
As might redeem long years of weariness !”

It would give us a pleasure the most intense to see the first act altered, the unimpassioned parts turned into prose, and some of the speeches abbreviated. This done, we think that its success on the stage would be complete. The mere perusal of it has moved us much more than we care to describe.

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*The Forget Me Not ; a Christmas, New Year's, and Birth-Day Present for 1842.* Edited By FREDERIC SHOBERL.

We heartily again welcome the most ancient and the most constant of our friends. We believe that this annual led the van of a host of imitators, and, in merit as well as in antiquity of precedence, it still preserves its honourable station. The name of Mr. Frederic Shoberl is a sufficient guarantee, as its editor, that everything worthy of his reputation and of an enlightened public must be accumulated in this handsome little volume. He introduces its contents by a somewhat mournful preface, in which he lingers over the memory of departed spirits, who were ever eager to assist him in these elegant literary undertakings, though at the same time he rejoices in

the phalanx of talent that still remains to him, and bids the world to "Forget him not." Nor will they; nor will it, when supported by the assistance of such masterly pens as those of Mrs. Gore, Mr. Montgomery, Allan Cunningham, and Leman Blanchard. We have no space to dwell upon the merits of each particular offering to this "Forget-me-Not;" most of the contributions are of a high order, and all of them fully equal to that degree of excellence which we have a right to expect from their respective authors. The plates, which, to many, form the principal feature of an annual, are not only good in themselves, but interesting by the stirring associations to which they give rise. The engravings of "Louis XI. at Plessis les Tours," and "The surprise of Montrose," are eminently so. We congratulate the editor in having produced, this year, perhaps the best of the whole series of the "Forget-me Nots;" and yet, though it leaves us nothing to complain of, indeed hardly anything to wish for, we predict that the future numbers of this popular annual will fully equal, if not surpass, the present one; and we come to this conclusion from the knowledge that we have of the editor's intimate connexion with all the leading characters of the English literary world, his own exquisite tact, and his persevering industry. Indeed, although the general passion for annuals is a little in the wane, and their reputation a little damaged on account of their vast number, the meretricious ornaments of some, and the high price of most of them, there is that in the very title of the "Forget-me-Not," which is so modest, so earnest, and so home to the bosom, that should all its contemporaries become neglected and steal away into oblivion, this annual bids fair to prove an evergreen, the verdure of which must endure, at least whilst under the cherishing care of its present superintendence. There are yet thousands of unopened sources available for this species of publication, and we make no doubt, but that, in this favourite periodical, the best will always be sought for, and its riches prodigally lavished on its supporters.

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*Action of the Corn Laws, and of the other Provision Laws, considered on the principles of a sound political economy and of common sense.*

By the Author of *Letters in the Times*, which, more than twenty years since, so mainly contributed to awaken public attention to this subject.

Yes, the principles of a sound political economy, and the dictates of common sense, are precisely the same, and they have found a clear head and an eloquent expounder in the author of this most logical pamphlet. Pity it is, and deeply to be lamented, that these taxes on food should be so intimately interwoven with conservatism. We trust, that even the very high Tories will confess that we, and many, very many more, are anxious to uphold the constitution, and yet be most urgent for the total repeal of all taxes upon provisions; in fact, that we may be good conservatives, and yet wish that our over-populated country might be permitted to go to the cheapest market for food. By the present system the landlords are enriched, excessively enriched,



at the expense of all the other classes of the community. That is the undisguised fact. Let us not attempt to tell them that a repeal would benefit them. Most certainly it would not; and they, acting upon the prevalent selfishness that too much governs human conduct, would, in a worldly sense, be very silly not to perpetuate restriction if they could, but even to increase it. The simple question is, are the rest of the empire to be the victims of their cupidity? But, instead of giving our opinions on this momentous subject, we will shortly state what are those of this well-informed and highly-talented author. This is one of his views.

“British manufactures exported must be paid for in some form; and all forms consisting in the ~~acts~~ acts of foreign lands, in their original or their commuted state, what can it possibly profit the British landlord to prohibit these importations in one state more than the other? It must be indifferent to him in what form return is made for British exports: to suppose otherwise, is to suppose an absurdity; and yet it is to this absurdity that he clings, and imagines his rent to depend on it. It is impossible but that rent must rest on some other basis than on an absurdity. Rent rests on the general prosperity of the country. The abolition of the whole body of the provision laws could not injuriously affect it; all that such abolition could do, would be to work a revolution in the present system of agriculture, and to force into tillage the land of the best quality, now condemned to the comparatively sterile state of grass. Well may the Chinese call us barbarians; for such indeed we are in regard to them, in the most essential branch of all science, that of production.”

This is a little at variance with our opinion, so far as regards the landlord. In all other respects we go to the extent of his argument. It will be seen that our author holds that the soil is under-cultivated; we believe it to be so, yet, whilst the property of it lay in a body of monopoly-protected landlords, the evil would not be diminished, were the face of the country one vast plain loaded with crops. The corn-laws are utterly in opposition to the tory principle of “every man has a right to do as he wills with his own.” They take away from him the right of disposing of the products of his labour in the first of all markets—the market for the necessities of life. The landlords say, Buy of me, or starve—a paltry alternative for a sensible and high-spirited nation. This is the author’s remedy for our present evil:

“The reform which the united kingdom needs is, the modification of the corn laws, and more especially of those other provision laws which, protecting the productions of grass land, militate against the extension of tillage, the main source of employment and of plenty in all great countries; the compulsory modification of the tithe system; and the modification of the actual system of taxation. To these may be added the modification of the Bank of England, of the joint stock banks, and of all the other banking establishments, and especially of all those of sufficient influence to call at any time on the government or legislature for protection, by a suspension of their engagements to pay in intrinsic money. When these things shall be effected; when our green fields shall be broken up, and be made to produce four-fold, or five-fold, or six-fold, as ploughed and cultivated land; when our best soils shall be in fertile tillage, instead of in their present comparatively barren state of grass: then shall there be employment for the rural population, without apprehension of its increasing numbers; then shall our thriving manufactures, growing with the increased demands of the rural population, double also the home

market for the productions of land ; and then shall landlords' rents, made to depend on the most productive cultivation, instead of on the artificially high price of a small quantity of products, be established on a firm basis, with the certainty of progressive increase, to be paid, too, in intrinsic money. It is in the nature of worldly things, that in the midst of general prosperity, landlords must always be the most prosperous."

In conclusion, we look upon it almost as a duty, that every one should make himself acquainted with the contents of this sensible pamphlet.

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*Cavets for Cornfields, comprehending a Morsel for Ministers : with Meditative Musings or Motives and "Mercy," and Curious Crudities concerning Hypocrisy.* By SELDER, JUNIOR.

This brochure, so singular with its alliterative title, is of a very different complexion from the able exposé we have just noticed above—for, with a vigour truly astonishing, it discards all ratiocination, and appeals to the feelings only. It is exactly a well-meaning rhapsody. This merry author, however, has a remedy, and a right pleasant one truly. It consists in making every one moral, virtuous, and just—and so generous, that if any one should ask a price below a remunerating profit, you should give him as much above the sum he demands as will (others doing the same) enable him and his family to live comfortably. He asks only for the establishment of the Millennium, in order to destroy the misery created by the taxes on provisions. This remedy is infallible. We only *wish we could get it!*

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*A History of the Vegetable Kingdom ; illustrated by several hundred Engravings on Wood and Steel, embracing the Physiology, Classification of Plants, with their various Uses to Man and the Lower Animals, and their application to Arts, Manufactures, and Domestic Economy.* By WILLIAM RHIND, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. &c. &c., Author of "Elements of Geology."

This is a goodly title, but, to quote Shakspeare, the author "me-thinks doth promise too much." We are, however, bound to state, that that which he has performed has been performed well. We understand this work has been projected in order to form an accompaniment to Goldsmith's "Animated Nature," and we think that it will prove a worthy companion to that popular work. The first part of this history of vegetation has for a frontispiece a beautifully engraved portrait of the renowned Linnæus. In what we have seen of this publication, our hopes have not been disappointed. The work opens with a treatise on the physiology of vegetation, and a very able and satisfactory treatise it is. We think this, by very far, the best part of it. When we come to the details, we find them too brief; on each subject all that is most striking is certainly adduced, yet very much is left unsaid. The author has cramped himself for room, which we fear will be some impediment to his success, and a very great loss to the public. Let us take the tamarind, for instance—all

that is said about "its use to man, and its application to the arts, manufactures, and domestic economy," is comprised in these very few words: "The tamarind tree is both useful and highly ornamental in those countries where it grows, and where its cool shade is nearly as much prized as its fruit. In this climate the plants thrive best in a peat or loamy soil, and root under a glass in sand. They rarely blossom here in our confined hot-houses." The omissions that we, who are not professed botanists, could supply, are many, and of some importance. All this, as we have before hinted, arises from the clever author not having taken for himself sufficient space. We are of opinion that he should enlarge his work two, or even threefold. We have received five numbers, and, with the limitation which we have felt bound to make, we consider them to be entitled to great praise. We cannot conclude without stating that the engravings, whether from wood or steel, are in the best style of art.

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*The Songs of Charles Dibdin, chronologically arranged, with Notes, historical, biographical, and critical, and the Music of the best and most popular of the Melodies, with new Pianoforte Accompaniments.*

We have received the first two parts of this truly national work, and we hail their appearance with delight. We understand that it is to consist of ten parts altogether, and, when completed, it must be naturalized in the library, great or small, of every lover of his country. The songs will ever be dear to the British sailor; they have warmed his heart in the hour of battle, soothed it in woe and in captivity, and added a graceful and a poetical charm to his sometimes else too boisterous conviviality. Undoubtedly, Charles Dibdin was the best sea-lyrical poet that the world, as yet, has seen; but not so much on account of the beauty of his numbers, as for the infinite service which he has done to the *morale* of the British navy, does he deserve to be immortalized. This edition, to which a well-engraved portrait of the sea-bard is prefixed, is exceedingly well got up. The music is very correctly printed, and the new accompaniments deserve commendation. Altogether, we cannot find a single fault wherewith to temper our panegyric upon the appearance of this edition.

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*George Cruikshank's Omnibus.*

This Buss rattles away at a pace which is quite exhilarating, and now having been full, for six months, of the best and most amusing company, every one who has a shilling to spare, and wishes for a pleasant trip on the literary road, gives it a hail. So far so good; but we must just whisper the proprietor that he has got one heavy customer in his *vehicle*. We have too much politeness to mention his name—and yet no great praise to us for our forbearance, for this man of the heavy weight prosed under a *nomme de guerre*. As yet, the pictorial beats the scriptorial—and the proprietor's pages are



always the best. The plate of "The Ghosts," in the frontispiece, is in itself an essay on hypochondriasm—and a very grimly-poetical essay it is. There are some nice little bits of gossip in "the Omnibus Chat," and the *tale* of "Little Spitz" is very exciting, and particularly at the moment when he carries it to his master in a basket. Hearing of this periodical all good things in all directions, it is only necessary for us to compliment the public on the excellent taste which it has exhibited, and thus shown itself worthy of being amused by so prime a spirit as Graphic George.

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*The Steam-Boat; a Tale of the Thames and the Times.* By G. W. M. REYNOLDS, author of "Pickwick Abroad," &c. with steel Engravings, and other Embellishments, by ALFRED CROWQUILL.

Mr. Reynolds is an indefatigable toiler after popularity, and has now embarked in a steam-boat, in order the more successfully to prosecute his search. As one of the recommendations to the present undertaking, he states himself, in his title-page, to be the author of "Pickwick Abroad." This work we never read, and have never before heard it spoken of, albeit we are given to much reading, and often resort to where "authors do most congregate." Of course, Mr. Reynolds has ready for us the retort decisive—"Not to know me or my Pickwick, argues yourself unknown." Well, the work before us must be judged by its intrinsic merits, and such judgment should be biassed neither by former success nor failure. The first number is pleasantly written, but, as yet, develops nothing original in itself, or extraordinary in the old way. However, we must state, that there is in it that which may prove the foundation of something brilliant hereafter. We will not decide upon the edifice, upon the production only of a single brick. We understand that it is to be completed in twenty monthly numbers; plenty of time this to form an opinion, seeing that the scaffolding is hardly completed. Crowquill's illustrations are good; but why has Mr. Reynolds placed an engraving at the beginning of his story, which is that of a pragmatistical stupid-looking head, with "forehead marvellous low," as his effigies?—If it be a likeness, we would, in all friendship, advise the gentleman never to be seen without a hat upon his head, and that with a good overshadowing brim.

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*The Pictorial Edition of Shakspeare.*

This edition has, in its progression, repeatedly received our commendations, and, having exhausted all the plays of this immortal poet, in its thirty-seventh number has commenced with his poetry. This first part of this division contains the "Venus and Adonis," and the "Rape of Lucrece." We are relieved by their well-known merits of speaking of them, and we must content ourselves by mentioning that the illustrations by which they are accompanied are of a very superior description. There is for frontispiece a wood-cut impression of the portrait of this time-honoured bard, having a very agreeable and a youthful look.

Nov. 1841.—VOL. XXXII.—NO. CXXVII.

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## MUSICAL ANNUALS.

We have received 7, 8, and 9, of Mr. Crouch's national work, "*Echoes of the Lakes*."—Nothing is more delightful than the perusal of these songs : every new number, as it appears, gives additional zest for the forthcoming one, and makes one wish that we could always have such strains floating around us. The great charm of these Irish songs consists of the varied and elegant style in which they are wrought—no one is like its predecessor, still the same interest, the same feeling, pervades the whole—a devotional adherence to all that is characteristic of Irish melody, love, pathos, and genuine passion—a gift rarely attainable by any but a native ; but the composer of Kathleen Mavourneen, Dermot Astore, and many other equally celebrated songs written for the bright-eyed daughters of the Green Isle, has formed a style of writing every way remarkable ; and that is, the pure, the unaffected, the genuine melody of the darling West. Although he is not a son of the Emerald Isle, still would "*Ould Ireland*" hail the birth of such a writer as a bard worthy of the freedom of her once happy land ; it needs only for the author of "*Echoes of the Lakes*" to visit the sister country, to be at once known, appreciated, and, we may add, naturalized for "*the Land of Love*." "*The Land of Song*" is too sensitive of respect, such as Mr. Crouch has shown, to admit of his abilities passing unnoticed.

No. 7. "*The Pledge*."—A beautiful melody in A flat ; a subject which neither man nor woman, (possessing half the fire of the Irish,) could sing without entering into its merits. The music tells its own tale, and the chaste words, wrought in the fine feeling of sacred love, form a union of sentiment we have rarely seen so successfully combined. To be hypercritical, we should say the first eight bars savour a little of the flavour of Dermot Astore.

No. 8. "*Katty O'Lynche*."—This is one of those sprightly bits hit off at the moment in which our author appears most happy ; it is full of life and vivacity, gambolling here, tripping there, like a summer's cloud o'er a fitful rainbow ; it has all the spirit an Irishman could wish for. This Echo is also arranged as a duet, and a charming trifle it makes.

No. 9. "*O'Donoghue's Bride*."—One of the most original morceaux it has ever been our province to review, and, in the hands of the fair cantatrice for whom it was written, must prove all that can be conceived of fairy music. This is one of the composer's happiest flights : may he ever wing his way through such strains, for success is sure to follow. We greatly admire the taste displayed, and the variety of treatment shown, all through this cavatina, particularly in the words

" Floating through the halls of shells,  
Where the soul of music dwells."

Here Mr. Crouch has dived deeper than usual for effect, and we need not tell our readers that almost *all* that could have been wished, or mostly desired, he has nearly accomplished. This is one of the most unique pieces of music that has appeared since Haydn's cele-

brated canzonet, "The Mermaid's Song," and must become a universal favourite.

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*Songs, Duets, and Trios*, selected from the Oratorios, &c. of Handel, and arranged, by permission of her Majesty, from the original MS. scores of the composer, with an accompaniment for the pianoforte. By HENRY R. BISHOP, Music Bac., Oxon. Six vols. D'Almaine and Co., Soho Square.

We know of no man so eminently qualified to conduct and edit a classical work as the gifted composer whose name adorns our library table, and whose labours it is our pleasant task this month to review. The name of Mr. Bishop, like that of Byron, is a passport to any work to which it may be attached: as with the poet, so is it with this distinguished musician, wherever, or in whatever, his name appears, a desire is immediately created to possess it. His reputation as a man, his great acquirements as a scholar, and his high sense of honour, would totally preclude the possibility of his lending himself, or his name, to anything that was not strictly in accordance with these principles, and to add additional grace to the fame he has so laboured to deserve, and so richly earned of his countrymen; for who is there that can play the gamut, that does not possess some morceaux of this musician's writings, beautiful as they are voluminous? We confess ourselves devotees to all that is good and classical, and, to whatever Mr. Bishop's name appears, all lovers of the genuine school of music will never err in providing themselves copies. It has been the fashion of late years to decry his compositions, under the absurd notion of his having written himself out; can any of these would-be judges pen a subject like him? can any one of them produce eight consecutive bars of original matter?—No! but, like the schoolboy who knew his multiplication table, they can figure, they can subtract, and then *detract*; but where is there one who can approach him as a composer? It is true, in his younger days he wrote to please the public, and delighted were they with his productions: he has been the one to engender a taste for opera in all our theatres; his labours have led others into the field, and from him we may date the now prevailing passion for all that is musical, all that bears refinement and good sense in our dramatic representatives. No composer has accomplished what Mr. Bishop has achieved, and no man can be less assuming, few so modest, and rarely one to be found as gentlemanly, polite, and courteous in all situations where *his* veto is paramount; for example, see him in the concert-room, the orchestra, or the drawing-room, he has ever the same unruffled, conciliating, and pleasing manner about him, to the satisfaction of all who may be under his direction, and to the prosperity of the performance, be it what it may.—Having said thus much, we will proceed to the review of Mr. Bishop's editing the works of the Great Maestro. In the preface of the volumes before us, after stating that many editions of the same songs and duets having appeared, all possessing excellence, it might seem unnecessary to comment on the *one* now publishing; but from an ardent desire that the great man's oratorios should be rendered comprehensive to all lovers



of the sublime school. He, Mr. Bishop, had been tempted into the task, by this praiseworthy feeling, and being honoured, by the permission of her Majesty, to have access to the original scores, he has availed himself of that privilege, and carefully examined the author's marks and intentions, particularly regarding the precise time each movement was to be played in—a desideratum long desired, and now for the first time wholly set at rest. In the present edition we have every subject marked by the metronome, the recitations accompanied in full, in addition to the figured bass, and those points clearly defined which are accompanied by the orchestra. Neither has our editor been unmindful of the marks of expression. The accompanist is much benefited by these attentions: the subjects for the wind instruments being marked, an organist can feel his way immediately, and by subduing those passages written for the oboe, clarionette, or flute, render the effect of the piece much greater; at the same time not impede or bear down the singer—a fault but too generally adhered to in the orchestras of this country. As a work, we recommend Mr. Bishop's Handel above all others; it evidently bears on the face of it a profound and masterly attention—a love that the “revered master's” writings should be disseminated in a pure and correct form—a design he has fully carried out, and which has only to be known to be appreciated. No choral society, of which there are many, (and we rejoice to find new ones rising throughout the country,) should be without this truly splendid national work,—an honour to the editor as well as a public obligation.

In this edition, five volumes of which have appeared, and a sixth now in the press, we perceive many beautiful and choice pieces hitherto unknown, and even some not before published; these, with the additional recommendations before alluded to, must ensure a large demand for the work in its collected form; and for those who possess other editions, they will rejoice to hear any piece from these volumes can be had singly. We strongly advise all lovers of Handelian music not to forego the pleasure of possessing and of perusing these highly-gifted pages.

Some of the notes attached to the different pieces, when, where, and for what they were written, are peculiarly interesting, and spread an additional charm over the work, as by them we find how Handel's master mind expanded in the creation of subjects that live, and are made to breathe when these generations shall have passed away, and in the progress of time leave nothing behind but similar standard publications to those on which we are now writing.

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*New Edition. A Complete Collection of the Glees, Trios, Quartets, Quintets, &c. and Choruses, composed by H. R. BISHOP, Mus. Bac. Oxon. Revised and corrected, and dedicated to the Glee and Choral Societies of Great Britain, by the Author. In Eight Vols. Together with the Airs, harmonized by the same Composer, as Glees, Trios, and Quartets, in two more volumes.—D'Almaine and Co.*

What shall we say after this announcement? one species of writing

alone to extend over ten thick volumes? Does this fact bear the semblance of Mr. Bishop's having written himself out? Absurd—envy—nothing more. This collection of concerted music will prove invaluable amongst the many clubs now formed for the practice of this kind of music; and if one recommendation could enhance the sale of such a variety of glees more than another, it would be the correct form in which Mr. Bishop has now published them, viz. particularising the voices for which each piece was originally written,—a direction at once enabling all amateurs to comprehend the author's intention. The work throughout bears the stamp of sterling merit, and the master mind of a great musician; nor have the publishers failed in performing their part towards producing an edition worthy the reputation of Mr. Bishop, and of the credit always maintained in every publication brought forward by this one of our first houses. It has our warmest recommendation, and we feel assured must deserve the notice of a liberal public.

To singly point out the contents of the present collection would require folios of writing, and a space our limited number of pages would totally preclude; suffice it to say, that all the acknowledged favourites are to be found in its present form, besides such pieces as were only published in the complete score of his numerous operas. We had hoped to have found in these volumes those gems of harmony, the concerted music written for "Lord Byron's Manfred,"—pieces that live in our memory as the offsprings of genius such as Mr. Bishop could alone create. We subjoin the poem of one of these grand conceptions—we would we could accompany it with a strain of its talented music.

"The raven sits

On the raven stone,  
And his black wing flits  
O'er the milk-white bone;  
To and fro, as the night-winds blow,  
The carcass of the assassin swings;  
And there alone, on the raven stone,\*  
The raven flaps his dusky wings.

The fetters creak—and his ebon beak  
Croaks to the close of the hollow sound;  
And this is the tune by the light of the moon,  
To which the witches dance their round.  
Merrily, merrily, cheerily, cheerily,  
Merrily speeds the ball:  
The dead in their shrouds, and the demons in clouds,  
Flock to the witches' carnival."

We have on our table four new songs by Horn, a name that speaks for itself, therefore eulogy from us would be useless—all that is good and excellent will be found in the "Moresco Maid," "Follow Me," "The Merry Guitar," and "Smile on, smile on;" the words by an American, H. J. Finn, the music by Charles Horn. Publisher, E. Ransford, Charles-street, Soho.

\* The Raven Stone, (Rabenstein,) a translation of the German word for the gibbet, which in Germany and Switzerland is permanent, and made of stone.

"*The Princess Royal*," "*Les Troubadours*," and "*Abbeville* ; *Quadrilles*, composed and published by JOHN WEIPPERT, Soho-square, Harpist in ordinary to the Queen, their Majesties the King and Queen of Belgium, King and Queen of Hanover, all the English Royal Family, and Director of her Majesty's Royal Quadrille Band, Almacks, &c.

To say that these sets of quadrilles possess all the wonted spirit and originality of the celebrated Weippert, would be asserting a plain fact, but to state that their construction is moulded in all that becomes a talented musician is no more than just ; there is a freshness, a kind of life, in all Weippert's music, that is truly charming ; it makes the blood warm within one under almost any circumstances, for young and old are seen to bound forth whenever his invigorating strains echo through the hall or ball-room. We earnestly recommend these quadrilles to all lovers of the light fantastic toe.

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"*Waltzes of the Danube*" and "*Nemours*." Same Author and Publisher.

Who that has once heard Weippert's talented band play a waltz, would not go twenty miles to hear them play the sets now before us ? We can almost create in our minds the sounds that would flow from such an orchestra with such music before them, and only regret that we are not in those happy circumstances when, "in days of yore," it was the wonted boast of our nobility to keep a retinue of musicians in their palaces—for we of the creative mood cannot picture a greater luxury, a more tasteful and pleasurable recreation, than listening to the combinations of divine harmony, and, were we so situated, our first enjoyment would be to secure the services of a body of gentlemen such as are congregated together in this celebrated band of Weippert's. The "*Danube*" and "*Nemours*" waltzes have the same recommendation as the quadrilles, and all admirers of this style of music will readily acknowledge our superior judgment and taste in calling their notice to them.

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*Fifty National Melodies arranged in a familiar style for the Piano-forte.* HENRI HERZ. D'Almaine and Co., Soho-square.

A work partaking the character of a superior instruction-book. The melodies are cleverly arranged, and are well calculated to forward the views of the master, and facilitate the progress of the pupil : they are such arrangements as are sure to command the attention of all schools and governesses, and we doubt not but that the teachers of such establishments will avail themselves of Mr. Herz's fifty national melodies.



*"Haydn's celebrated Canzonets," arranged for the Pianoforte by*  
CHARLES CZERNY. D'Almaine and Co.

We could have wished to have seen this talented musician bestowing his labours on subjects more calculated to show off his great tact in arrangement, than those now before us—pieces as unfit for this instrument, as they would be lost on the Jews' harp. These canzonets were written for music, voice, and words—a combination wholly destroyed when divested of the support of each other. However, Mr. Czerny has accomplished all that could be done, and, though not agreeable to our liking, they will repay those who may teach them.

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*Three Favourite Airs, arranged as Rondos for the Pianoforte. By*  
HENRI HERZ.

Arrangements as good as they are genuine, and are certain of becoming generally adopted—they are just the pieces to entice a pupil on.

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In our last number we pledged ourselves to return to the notice of D'Almaine's beautiful annual "*Songs of Erin*." To the manner and form of its production we have already drawn notice, and, in addition to what we then stated, we can only pledge ourselves to our readers that a more elegant, costly, and talented book we never recollect having seen. Some of the melodies are really delightful, and evince great taste on the part of the talented poet, Mr. Ryan—as we cull from the preface that the *bouquet* has been gathered by himself, with one or two exceptions. We cannot speak too highly of the merit, the feeling, and the high sense of national pride generally diffused throughout these pages. Mr. Ryan modestly states, that should he *again* be called to the task. Could he ever quit it? Will the publishers lose sight of such authors as the two by whom the book has been produced? We say no!—and a voice is heard in the far West, echoing from lake to lake, from hill to hill, and from shore to shore, "Go on, ye spirits that have arisen from the past—proceed, and we'll follow ye!" It is a voice in which we cordially join. May the exertions of Messrs. Ryan and Crouch ever find hearts capable of responding to their own; for men who could jointly produce such a volume as the one before us, would give honour to any nation much less deserving their talents and their sympathies than poor crushed Ireland. No work of the kind has appeared since the days of Moore's *Melodies*, and we are confident no periodical is so certain of success as these "*Songs of Erin*." They are gems which the great Poet of the West would proudly enshrine himself in;—and may the wreath so ably begun, bloom and re-bloom to the honour of the founders, and to the pleasure of all who love the true paintings of genius.

Several of the songs have already been caught up by our leading vocalists. Miss Bassano has been singing "*Eveleen O'Moore*" to crowded audiences all through Wales, accompanied by the composer,

Mr. Crouch. "The Pulse of My Heart," "The May Queen," and "The Dying Bard," are pieces really enchanting, and are sure to follow in the wake of "Kathleen Mavourneen" and "Dermot Astore."

The duets are well arranged, and possess some good and pleasing effects, but they will require careful and experienced singing to produce the effect intended by the composer. The accompaniments throughout the volume bespeak care and attention. The voice pours forth its own impassioned feelings, consequently the accompaniment is shadowed forth, and *not painted*, a mere support and auxiliary to the tale—a peculiarity always highly commendable. "Songs of Erin" has our warmest and best wishes.

### LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

- Tales of the Moor. By Josias Homely. 12mo. 5s.  
 Singing for the Million. By J. Mainzer. 8vo. 4s.  
 The Channel Islands, for the Use of Visitors. 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
 Philosophy of Storms. By J. P. Espy. 8vo. 16s.  
 Wealth not Happiness. By Miss M. A. Everett. 12mo. 4s. 6d.  
 Fragments of Italy and the Rhine-land. By the Rev. T. H. White. Fcap. 7s. 6d.  
 D'Aubigné's Reformation. Translated by Kelly. Part III. Royal 8vo. 3s. 6d.  
 The Maid of Orleans. From the German of Schiller. By Newton Ivory Lucas, Esq. 8vo. 5s.  
 Lockhart's Spanish Ballads. 4to. 2l. 2s.  
 Burnett's History of the Reformation. 2 vols. super royal 8vo. 32s.; with Portraits, 2l. 15s.  
 The Canadas in 1841. By Lt.-Col. Sir Richard Bonnycastle. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.  
 Muller's Picturesque Sketches of the Age of Francis the First. Imp. fol. tinted, 4l. 4s.  
 Italy and its Comforts. Fcap. 7s. 6d.  
 The Little Bracken Burners. By Lady Calcott. Royal 18mo. 3s.  
 Hobbes' English Works. Edited by Sir Wm. Molesworth, Bart. Vol. II. 8vo. 12s.  
 Lady of the Manor. Vol. IV. 12mo. 5s.  
 The English Maiden, her Moral and Domestic Duties. 12mo. 4s. 6d.  
 Stanley Thorn. By Henry Cockton, Esq. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.  
 The Old English Gentleman, or the Field and the Woods. By John Mills, Esq. 31s. 6d.  
 Englishman's Library. Vol. XVIII. (Paget's Tales, third series.) Fcap. 8vo. 3s. 6d.  
 Memoirs of Madame Laffarge. Written by Herself. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.  
 Tracings of Maritime Discovery. 16mo. 2s. 6d.  
 Hints for Australian Emigrants, &c. By P. Cunningham. 8vo. 5s. 6d.  
 Percy's Tales of the Kings of England, Richard II. to Elizabeth. Square 16mo. 4s. 6d.  
 Campbell's Lives of British Admirals, abridged. Fcap. 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
 The Adventures of a Soldier, Memoirs of Edward Costello. Post 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
 The Parish Clerk. By the author of Peter Priggins, edited by T. Hook. 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.  
 Howitt's (W.) Student-Life of Germany. 8vo. 21s.  
 Schiller's Bride of Messina. Translated by A. Lodge. 8vo. 6s.  
 The Winter's Tale. Square. 2s. 6d.  
 The Little Cousins. Square. 3s. 6d.  
 A Soldier in Time of War; or, the Military Life of Mr. J. Stevenson. 12mo. 3s.  
 Legends of England. Post 8vo. 3s.  
 Legends of France. Post 8vo. 3s.  
 Peter Parley's Annual, 1842. Square, 5s.  
 Lights and Shadows of London Life. By the Author of "Random Recollections." 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.  
 The Adventures of Obadiah Oldbuck. 8vo. 7s.

### LITERARY NEWS—WORKS IN PROGRESS.

A new work is in progress, the first, we believe, of a series, intended to illustrate traits of character. It is entitled, "*HARDNESS, OR THE UNCLE.*" It is from the pen of a gentleman who enjoys every opportunity of painting from the life; and, from what we have seen, we have no doubt the new work will interest a very wide circle of readers. It is to appear about the middle of the month.

A new translation of *TIBULLUS*, from the pen of a professional gentleman, is nearly ready.

The publication of Miss Woodford's *BOOK OF SONNETS* has been deferred; it may be expected very speedily.

The new edition of that elegant little work, *THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS*, revised and enlarged by the Editor of the *Forget-Me-Not*, is just ready.

The new poetical work, entitled *WANDERINGS*, by R. G. Cunningham, Esq. of Mount Kennedy, is nearly completed.

Mr. Macnamara's Prize Essay on Peace is now published. It is strongly recommended by the decidedly favourable opinion of the talented adjudicators.

The History of the Knights Templars, with an Account of the Temple Church and its present restoration, by C. G. Addison of the Inner Temple, is nearly ready.

### THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

The many and very numerous public meetings that have been held, and are at this moment holding throughout the country, to relieve the distresses of the working classes, too painfully establish the decadence of our home and foreign trade. This mischief is not only a deep sore, but an extensive one, spreading almost over the whole surface of society. It would be difficult to specify that particular branch of trade or commerce which is now prospering; and the best that can be said of them is, that some branches suffer a little less than others. We must have a remedy, and that must consist in more and cheaper food. The cotton market has of late a little improved, but the extent of the improvement must be much greater ere we can say anything favourable upon it. It is certainly a gloomy time of the year, and we must hope that, with new counsels at head-quarters, and with returning spring, we may find returning prosperity. Taking a broad view of the case, we are of opinion that the present ministry will relax the rigour of the provision laws;—we know that the most rational portion of it wish to do so, and, among a body of Englishmen, reason, in the long-run, is always found to prevail.

### PRICES OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS,

On Thursday, 23th of October.

#### ENGLISH STOCKS.

Three per Cents. reduced, 86 quarter.—Consols 89 one-fourth.—Consols for Acct. 88 half.—Three and a Half per Cent. Anns. 96 seven-eighths.—India Bonds, 2 pr. 1 dis.—Exchequer Bills, 1000l. 9s. 11s. pr.

#### FOREIGN STOCKS.

Portuguese New, Nov. 15, 29 five-eighths.—Dutch Two and a Half per Cent., 51 three-eighths.—Spanish, Acct. 29 half.—Spanish Passives, 4 five-eighths.—Dutch Two and Half per Cents., 51 three-eighths.—Dutch 5 per Cents., 99 quarter.



**MONEY MARKET.**—Just as we are going to press, a most nefarious transaction, among some of the higher officials of the late Treasury, is in the course of being unravelled. More than 200,000*l.* worth of Exchequer Bills have been fraudulently issued, each of these bills being duplicates of true ones; consequently one set of them must be forgeries, and both sets are in the market. These securities are therefore at a discount, and great confusion exists amongst commercial men. Since its discovery, business at the Stock Exchange has become almost nominal. During the past month money has been easily procurable by good houses at five per cent., and the funds all through have held up. It would be loss of time to mention anything about the state of foreign securities. They have been almost totally neglected by capitalists, and those of the minor European states have all been on the decline. Railway shares have also drooped. There has been a great export of silver, both in coin and bars, from this country. On consulting our lists of bankrupts, it will be seen that some extensive banks and commercial houses have failed, and the time certainly is far from prosperous.

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### NEW PATENTS.

R. Whitaker, of Cambridge, Machinist, for improvements in cutting the edges of books and paper, and for other purposes, and in impressing ornaments, letters, and figures on the binding of books and other surfaces. September 4th, 6 months.

T. A. Wilhelme, Count of Hompesch, of Mivart's Hotel, Brook Street, for improvements in obtaining oils and other products from bituminous matters, and in purifying and rectifying oils obtained from such matters. September 4th, 6 months.

J. Boot, of Quarndon, Leicester, Lace Glove Manufacturer, and J. King, of Henor, Lace Maker, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for manufacturing, or producing figured or ornamental fabrics in warp and bobbin-net-lace machines. September 4th, 6 months.

J. Grafton, of Cambridge, Civil Engineer, for an improved method of manufacturing gas. September 4th, 2 months.

M. Coupland, of Pond Yard, Southwark, Millwright and Engineer, for improvements in furnaces. September 4th, 6 months.

G. Wildes, of Coleman Street, Merchant, for improvements in the manufacture of white lead. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 4th, 6 months.

W. H. Darker, Senior, and W. H. Darker, Junior, both of Lambeth, Engineers, and W. Wood, of Wilton, Carpet Manufacturer, for certain improvements in looms for weaving. September 4th, 6 months.

L. Lachenal, of Titchfield Street, Soho, Mechanic, and A. Vieyres, of 40, Pall Mall, Watch Maker, for improvements in machinery for cutting cork. September 4th, 6 months.

J. Jukes, of Lewisham, Gentleman, for improvements in furnaces or fire-places. September 4th, 6 months.

P. Pelletan, of Saint Paul's Church Yard, Professor of Medicine, for improvements in propelling fluids and vessels. September 6th, 6 months.

T. Drew the Younger, of St. Peter's Port, for an improved method of rolling and cutting lozenges, and also of cutting gun-wads, wafers, and all other similar substances, by means of a certain machine designed by him, and constructed by divers metals and woods. September 6th, 6 months.

L. Hebert, of 12, Staple's Inn, London, for certain improvements in the apparatus and metals used in the manufacture of gas for illumination, and in the apparatus for burning the same. September 8th, 6 months.

R. Else, of Gray's Inn, Esquire, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for forcing and raising water and other fluids. September 8th, 6 months.

W. Fairbairn, of Millwall, Poplar, Engineer, for certain improvements in the construction and arrangement of steam-engines. September 8th, 6 months.

J. C. Grant, of Stamford, Lincoln, Ironmonger and Agricultural Implement Maker, for improvements in horse-rakes and hoes. September 8th, 6 months.

N. Card, of Manchester, Candle Wick Maker, for certain improvements in the manufacture of wicks for candles, lamps, or other similar purposes, and in the apparatus connected therewith. September 8th, 6 months.

J. Thorburn, of Manchester, Machinist, for certain improvements in machinery for producing knitted fabrics. September 8th, 6 months.

M. Berry, of Chancery Lane, Civil Engineer, for an improved method or means of, and apparatus for, cleansing typographical characters, or forms of type, after being used in printing. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 8th, 6 months.

O. W. Barratt, of Birmingham, Metal Gilder, for certain improvements in the precipitation or deposition of metals. September 8th, 6 months.

J. Garnett, of Haslingden, Dyer, and J. Mason, of Rochdale, Machine Maker, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus employed in the manufacture of yarns and cloth, and as also in possession of certain improvements applicable to the same. Partly communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 8th, 6 months.

E. L. de Schelesdatt, Engineer and Chemist, and E. Sterlinge, Tanner, of Regent's Square, in the county of Middlesex, for certain or new improved machinery or apparatus and process for tanning skins or hides, and preparing or operating upon vegetable and other substances. September 8th, 6 months.

G. Mannering, of Dover, Plumber, and H. Harrison, of Ashford, Plumber, for certain improvements in the means of raising water and other liquids. September 8th, 6 months.

A. R. Le Mire de Normandy, of Red Cross Square, Cripplegate, Doctor of Medicine, for certain improvements in the manufacture of Soap. September 8th, 6 months.

W. Crosskil, of Beverley, Iron Founder and Engineer, for improvements in machinery for rolling and cutting land, and in machinery to be used in the culture of grass land. September 8th, 6 months.

W. H. Burnett, of Ravensbourne Wood Mills, Deptford Creek, Gentleman, for improvements in machinery for cutting wood, and in apparatus connected therewith, part of which may be applied to other purposes. September 9th, 6 months.

C. L. Stanislas Baron Heurteloup, of Albany Street, Regent's Park, for an improved manufacture of continuous priming, and for an improved mechanism for the application of the same, to certain descriptions of fire-arms. September 9th, 6 months.

C. F. Stollmeyer, of Golden Terrace, Barnsbury Road, Islington, Merchant, for certain improvements in obtaining and applying motive power, by means of winds and waves, for propelling vessels on water, and driving other machinery. September 17th, 6 months.

G. Shillibeer, of Melton Street, Euston Square, Carriage Builder, for improvements in the construction of hearses, mourning, and other carriages. September 20th, 6 months.

F. M. A. Dez Maurel, of Newington Terrace, Surrey, for an improved buckle. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 20th, 6 months.

W. C. Forster, of Bartholomew Close, Gentleman, for a material, or compound of material, not hitherto so used, for preventing damp rising in walls, and for freeing walls from damp, which material, or compound of material, can be applied to other purposes. September 20th, 6 months.

W. Newton, of Chancery Lane, Civil Engineer, for improved machinery for manufacturing felts or felted cloths. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 20th, 6 months.

J. Hulme, of Manchester, Engineer, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for granding, sharpening, or setting the teeth or cards or other similar apparatus employed for carding or operating upon cotton, wool, or other fibrous substances. September 20th, 6 months.

T. Huckvale, of Over Norton, Oxford, Farmer, for improvements in horse-hoes, and in apparatus for treating and dressing turnips to preserve them from insects and promote their growth. September 20th, 6 months.

A. Elam, of Huddersfield, in the county of York, Surgical Instrument Maker, for improvements in apparatus or instruments for the relief and cure of procidentia and prolapsus uteri. September 20th, 6 months.

L. Herbert, of Birmingham, for improvements in machinery for fulling woollen cloth. Communicated by a foreigner residing abroad. September 20th, 6 months.

W. Bush, of Deptford, Engineer, for improvements in the means of, and in the apparatus for, building and working under water. September 21st, 6 months.

Comte Melano de Calcina, of Nassau Street, Middlesex, for improvements in paving or covering roads and other ways or surfaces. September 21st, 6 months.

E. E. Perkins of Westow Hill, Norwood, Gentleman, for improvements in the manufacture of soap. September 21st, 6 months.

J. Duncan, of Great George Street, Westminster, Gentleman, for improvements in machinery for driving piles. September 21st, 6 months.

G. Scott, of Louth, Miller, for certain improvements in flour-mills. September 23rd, 6 months.

J. Whitelaw, Engineer, of Glasgow, and J. Stirrat, Manufacturer, of Paisley, for improvements in rotary machines to be worked by water. September 23rd, 6 months.

Henry Bessemer, of Baxter House, Saint Pancras, Engineer, and C. L. Schanberg, of Sidmouth Place, Gray's Inn Lane Road, Artist, for improvements in the manufacture of certain glass. September 23rd, 6 months.

### MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Kept at Edmonton. Latitude  $51^{\circ} 37' 32''$  N. Longitude  $3^{\circ} 51''$  West of Greenwich.

The mode of keeping these registries is as follows:—At Edmonton the warmth of the day is observed by means of a thermometer exposed to the north in the shade, standing about four feet above the surface of the ground. The extreme cold of the night is ascertained by a horizontal self-registering thermometer in a similar situation. The daily range of the barometer and thermometer is known from observations made at intervals of four hours each, from eight in the morning till the same time in the evening. The weather and the direction of the wind are the result of the most frequent observations. The rain is measured every morning at eight o'clock.

1841.	Range of Ther.	Range of Barom.	Prevailing Winds.	Rain in Inches	Prevailing Weather.
Sept.					
23	60-52	29.60-29.755	S.	.375	Morning cloudy, with lightning, thund. and rain.
24	59-48	29.695 stat.	S.	.265	Afternoon clear, otherwise cloudy, with rain.
25	62-49	29.39 staty.	S.W.	.13	Morning cloudy, with rain, aftern. & even. clear.
26	60-50	29.40-29.39	S.	.145	Generally cloudy, raining frequently.
27	61-49	29.50-29.36	W.	.135	Cloudy, rain fell in the morning.
28	63-54	29.30-29.18	S.	.525	Overcast, raining frequently and heavily during
29	63-55	29.34-29.09	S.W.		Generally cloudy, rain at times. [the day.
30	64-53	29.33-29.15	S.	.4	Even. clear, otherwise cloudy, rain during morn.
Oct.					
1	57-44	29.48-29.39	N.W.	.115	Generally cloudy, raining frequently.
2	59-44	29.70-29.65	N.W.	.1	Generally clear.
3	57-39	29.70-29.69	N.E.		Morning clear, otherwise cloudy, rain at times.
4	59-43	29.63-29.38	N.E.	.08	Generally cloudy, raining frequently.
5	57-44	28.92-29.12	S.	.395	Morning foggy, afternoon clear, evening cloudy.
6	56-44	28.85-28.80	S.W.	.2	Morning hazy, afternoon cloudy with rain.
7	56-37.5	28.92-29.01	S.W.		Afternoon cloudy with rain, otherwise clear.
8	55-44	29.40-29.07	N.W.	.14	Generally cloudy, raining frequently and heavily.
9	54-43	29.77-29.62	W.	.245	Morning overcast, otherwise generally clear.
10	57-41	29.77-29.57	S.		General overcast, raining frequently during the
11	57-48	29.54-29.47	S.W.	.25	Afternoon cloudy with rain, otherwise clear. [day.
12	53-44	29.46-29.09	W.	.295	Even. clear, otherwise overcast, rain frequently.
13	54-41	29.85-29.76	S.W.	.235	Morn. clear, otherwise cloudy, rain in the even.
14	68-46	29.75-29.68	S.W.	.02	Generally clear.
15	58-49	29.68-29.43	S.W.	.185	Generally clear, raining very heavily about 1 A.M.
16	57-40	29.44-29.32	S.W.	.44	Morning and aftern. overcast, raining from 4 A.M.
17	58-42	29.45-29.39	S.W.	.095	Morning cloudy, otherwise generally clear, rain
18	53-47	29.80-29.50	W.	.02	Generally clear. [between 6 and 7 P.M.
19	54-43	29.86-29.43	S.W.	.61	Morn. cloudy, with heavy rain, otherwise clear.
20	53-36	29.84-29.61	S.W.		Clear.
21	46-34	30.03-29.71	W.		Clear, rain fell during the morning.
22	46-28	30.04-29.85	S.E.		Generally cloudy.

A storm of thunder and vivid lightning, accompanied by heavy rain, between five and six o'clock on the morning of the 23rd ult.

A meteor of extraordinary brilliancy passed from near the zenith towards the N.W. about a quarter before seven on the evening of the 24th ult.; the train was from five to six degrees in length; the path cannot be accurately pointed out, as a haze rendered the stars invisible at the time of its passage, which was remarkably slow.

*Aurora Borealis*, with coruscations, extending from N. N.N.E., between twelve and one on the morning of the 26th ult.

A small meteor seen in the west about half-past eight on the evening of the 16th instant.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.



BANKRUPTS.

FROM SEPTEMBER 21 TO OCTOBER 15, 1841, INCLUSIVE.

Sept. 21.—W. Hitchcock, Regent-street, linen-draper.—R. Potter, J. Potter, and J. Potter, Manchester, cotton spinners.—H. Mackay and A. F. Mackay, Glasgow, merchants.—R. Kay, Halton, Whitechurch, Yorkshire, grocer.—R. Neech, sen., Kukley, Suffolk, farmer.—J. M. Sperling, Halstead, Essex, scrivener.—J. Butler, Walsall, saddlers' ironmonger.—W. Drinkwater, Salford, woollen cord manufacturer.—W. Beastall, Nottingham, draper.

Sept. 24.—J. Hammon, Great Portland-street, plumber.—T. Gamuf, Fetter-lane, wholesale furrier.—T. I. Woodin, New-cut, Lambeth, victualler.—J. Hadfield, Manchester, horse dealer.—J. Hulme, Manchester, grocer.—J. Reed, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, sailcloth manufacturer.—H. W. Hobhouse, J. Phillott, and C. Lowder, Bath, bankers.

Sept. 28.—H. W. Hobhouse, J. Phillott, and C. Lowder, Bath, bankers.—J. Morrish, Keynsham, Somersetshire, maltster.—J. Little, Stockport, banker.—B. R. Broadbent, Spotland, Rochdale, flannel manufacturer.—J. and T. Richan and J. Blake, Sunderland, tanners.—T. Wilson, Kingston-upon-Hull, joiner.—J. Morcom, St. Ives, Cornwall, grocer.—G. Atkinson, Monkwearmouth Shore, Sunderland, hardwareman.—W. F. Reuss, Liverpool, merchant.—M. Pollitt, Charlestown, Pendleton, Lancaster, fustian dyer.—J. Parkinson, Moorgate Fold-within Livesey, cotton spinner.

Oct. 1.—W. Broome, Oxford-street, linen-draper.—J. C. Mott, Loughborough, wine merchant.—W. W. Ogbourne, Honey-lane, Cheap-side, commission agent.—C. H. Thompson, Liverpool, music seller.

Oct. 5.—A. J. Hoffstaedt, Billiter-street, Fenchurch-street, merchant.—J. C. Knell, Millbrook, Hampshire, cattle dealer.—E. Bayly, Exeter, straw bonnet dealer.—H. Busbridge, Upper North-place, Gray's Inn-road, livery-stable keeper.—R. Chilver, Ipswich, upholsterer.—E. Cooper, E. P. Cooper, B. Cooper, and J. A. Cooper, Staverton Mills, Trowbridge, clothiers.—J. Heywood, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, cotton-spinner.—J. B. Carey, Nottingham, lace manufacturer.—E. Wilcock, G. Teas-

dale, and J. Turner, Ulverstone, Lancashire, paper manufacturers.—J. Gratton, Newbold, Chesterfield, brickmaker.

Oct. 8.—S. H. Crosswell, and J. May, jun., Devonport, wine merchants.—G. B. Bishop and F. Hildyard, Southampton, drapers.—E. Tanner, Fish-street-hill, ship and insurance agent.—J. Coulsell, of Richmond, Surrey, builder.—C. Hope, Blackfriars-road, chinaman.—T. Lee, Battye Mill, Yorkshire, boat-builder.—R. Brown, Kingston-upon-Hull, bookseller.—J. Russell, Brampton, Derbyshire, tailor.—T. Bryan, Leamington Priors, hotel proprietor.—F. Sneade, Chester, timber-merchant.—J. Ellacott, Cheltenham, shoe-manufacturer.—A. Morrison, Great Malvern, Worcestershire, lodging-housekeeper.—R. M. Dittrich, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.—G. Carey, Nottingham, lace manufacturer.—J. Tomkinson, Manchester, joiner.—J. Caparn, Riddings, Derbyshire, common brewer.—J. Gibson, Over Darwen, Lancashire, cotton cloth manufacturer.

Oct. 12.—J. S. Clark, Angel court, Throgmorton-street, City, broker.—W. Monteith, Oxford-street, linen-draper.—J. Pierce, Bedford, tailor.—F. L. Byrne, Liverpool, wine broker.—R. Halford, W. H. Baldock, and O. Snoultten, Canterbury, bankers.—J. Edwards, Hungerford, wine merchant.—R. Morris, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, timber merchant.—J. Baldwin, Edgbaston, near Birmingham, wire drawer.—T. Holyland, Manchester, manufacturer of woollen and cotton clothes.—J. Richmond and R. Smith, Manchester, yarn agents.—E. Payne, Liverpool, drysalter.—S. Eastwood, Huddersfield, woolstapler.—T. Cheetham, sen., Stockport, surgeon.

Oct. 15.—R. Drew, Wells-street, Camberwell, furniture broker.—W. H. Taylor, Norwich, apothecary and druggist.—J. Nield, J. Nield, J. Nield, jun., and J. Holt, Quick, Saddleworth, Yorkshire, cotton spinners.—J. Raunders, Plymouth, porter merchant.—W. Iredale, Smithriding, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer.—H. Poantney, jun., Birmingham, grocer.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.—Sept. 22.—Lord Kean, Lord Feversham, and Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, presented themselves at the table, and were sworn. The last-named peer being a Roman Catholic, the oaths taken by Roman Catholic peers were administered to him.—Lord Cottenham postponed until next session his bills for improving the administration of justice in bankruptcy and insolvency, and for the establishment of local courts of judicature throughout the kingdom.

Sept. 23.—Occupied merely in conversation.

Sept. 26.—Only a long speech from Lord Brougham about prison discipline.

Sept. 27.—A long discourse about the justice of having appropriated a sum of 70,000*l.* for building the stables at Windsor. Defended by Lord Melbourne.—Nothing else of importance.

Sept. 28.—Nothing material.

Oct. 4.—The Bishop of Oxford took the oaths and subscribed the rolls of Parliament, and then followed a very lame vindication from Lord Minto, as to his abuse of the patronage of the navy.

Oct. 5.—At a few minutes to four, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Wharncliffe, took their seats in front of the throne, and gave the royal assent as Lords Commissioners, with the accustomed formalities, in the presence of the Speaker and the members of the Commons, who were summoned to their lordship's bar by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Sir Augustus Clifford, to the following public and private bills:—Administration of Justice Bill, Expiring Laws' Bill, Navy Pay Bill, Lunatics' Bill, Foreign Bishops' Consecration Bill, Frogmore Lodge Bill, Royal Gardens' Bill, Biddle's Estate Bill, Marlborough Estate Bill, Clayton Name Bill.

Oct. 7.—Sir Augustus Clifford, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was directed by the Lord Chancellor to summon the Speaker and the members of the House of Commons to their Lordships' bar, to hear both the commissions—the one for giving the royal assent to bills in her Majesty's absence, the other for proroguing Parliament—read, and witness the proceedings. Shortly afterwards the Speaker, accompanied by Sir R. Peel, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a considerable number of members, having appeared at the bar, the commission for giving the royal assent to the bills was read, and the bills in question—viz. the Exchequer Bills Funding Bill, the Exchequer Bills (Appropriation) Bill, the Poor Law Commission Continuance Bill, and the Population Payment Bill, received the royal assent with the usual formalities.

The Speech was as follows:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to acquaint you that it appears advisable to her Majesty to bring to a close the present session of Parliament.

"In conformity with the advice of her Parliament, and in pursuance of the declared intention of her Majesty, her Majesty has taken the requisite measures for the formation of a new Administration, and the arrangements for that purpose have been completed by her Majesty.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"We have it in command from her Majesty to thank you for the supplies which you have granted to her Majesty for those branches of the public service for which complete provision had not been made by the late Parliament.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"The measures which it will be expedient to adopt for the purpose of equalising the public income and the annual expenditure, and other important objects connected with the trade and commerce of the country, will necessarily occupy your attention at an early period after the recess.

"Her Majesty has commanded us to repeat the expression of her deep concern at the distress which has prevailed for a considerable period in some of the principal manufacturing districts, and to assure you that you may rely upon the cordial concurrence of her Majesty in all such measures as shall appear, after mature consideration, best calculated to prevent the recurrence of that distress, and to promote the great object of all her Majesty's wishes—the happiness and contentment of the people."

The Commission was next read for proroguing the Parliament, after which, the LORD CHANCELLOR said—"My Lords and Gentlemen—by virtue of her Majesty's commission to us and other Lords directed, which has been now read, we do, in her Majesty's name, and in obedience to her Majesty's commands, hereby prorogue this Parliament to Thursday, the 11th day of November next, to be then here holden: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the 11th day of November next.

Their Lordships then retired, and the Members of the House of Commons, with the Speaker at their head, also.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Sept. 20.—At this sitting the House was employed solely on the estimates, all of which passed with but feeble opposition.

Sept. 21.—Nothing of importance.

Sept. 22.—Only a debate on the policy of continuing the Poor Law Commission for a year.

Sept. 23.—On the order of the day having been read for going into committee of supply, Mr. P. M. Stewart, pursuant to notice, called attention to a petition he had presented a few evenings ago, complaining of the extent and severity of the distress

existing in Paisley.—Sir Robert Peel explained—that he thought it more reasonable to take some time to digest and mature his plans, and then to propose them to the House for discussion in a formal manner, than to give mere hints of his intentions, without the possibility, at the present moment, of embodying them in any practical or beneficial measure.—As soon as the discussion had ceased, the House went into committee of supply, and some further miscellaneous estimates were agreed to, without opposition, on the motion of Sir George Clerk.—Captain Boldero then moved the Ordnance Estimates, which were also agreed to. The necessity of having a naval officer at the Ordnance Board, and the badness of the arms supplied to the navy, were the principal topics urged by Charles Napier, and commented on by several other honourable members.

Sept. 26.—The House resolved itself into a committee of ways and means, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that he had no occasion to go into the details already communicated to the House by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, as it would be a needless repetition. In the present session there had been voted 1,727,432*l.*, to which was to be added the interest on Exchequer bills, amounting to 740,000*l.*, and these two items comprised the sum which the House was then called upon to supply, and this sum was as nearly as possible coincident with the sum which the late Chancellor of the Exchequer had estimated that it would be necessary to supply. The step which he had thought it right to adopt—namely, that of funding Exchequer bills, had been quite successful. The amount subscribed for was 3,540,000*l.*, and Parliament would have only to make up 1,460,000*l.*, which he hoped would be done in the manner in which he proposed it to be effected—viz. the resolution with which he should conclude. He did not wish to have recourse to new taxes to make up the deficiency, and he should therefore resort to temporary expedients. He proposed that either Exchequer bills or the sale of stock should be applied to this purpose; and he proposed that the option should be given to the government of adopting either of those expedients. He did not think this expedient admissible upon general principles, but in the difficulties of the country he felt it necessary to propose it; but he hoped, ere long, he should be enabled to submit to the House the whole question of the manner in which the income and expenditure of the country were to be equalized.—Sir J. Graham moved that the House should resolve itself into a committee of the whole House upon the Poor Law Commission Bill.

Sept. 27.—On the Poor Law Commission Bill, the Ministers, by a majority of 141, carried their measure of continuing it for a year.

Sept. 28.—Nothing of consequence.

Sept. 29.—Mere matters of routine and conversation.

Sept. 30.—Sir James Graham having moved the third reading of the Poor Law Commission Continuance Bill, Mr. Fielden moved as an amendment, that it should be read a third time on that day three months.—A division took place, and the numbers were—For the third reading, 133; for the Amendment, 18; majority for the third reading, 115.

Oct. 4.—No house.

Oct. 5.—Nothing important.

Oct. 6.—The following members took the oaths and their seats:—Alderman Thompson, for Westmoreland (in the room of Lord Lowther,) Mr. Pulsford for the borough of Hereford (in the room of Mr. H. Hobhouse,) Mr. Ffolliott for Sligo (in the room of Colonel Perceval,) and Captain Meynell, re-elected for Lisburn.—Sir James Graham, in answer to a question from Mr. Ward, stated, that the Tamworth petition, praying the Queen not to prorogue Parliament until after a consideration of the Corn Law question, had been referred to the mayor of Tamworth to examine into the signatures, of which there was reason to believe that many were forgeries.

Oct. 7.—A new writ was moved by Sir T. Fremantle for the county of Linlithgow, in the room of the Hon. Charles Hope, who has accepted the office of one of the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital. Lord Somerton took the oaths and his seat for the borough of Wilton; and Mr. J. Young took his seat for the county of Cavan. A variety of petitions were presented; and at half-past two o'clock the Usher of the Black Rod summoned the House to the House of Lords to hear her Majesty's speech read by commission. On their return from the House of Lords the Speaker took his place at the table. He then proceeded to read the speech, after which the Members separated.



## MISCELLANEOUS, PHILOSOPHICAL, &amp;c.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE GREAT AQUEDUCT AT LISBON OVER THE VALLEY OF AL-CANTRA.**—This aqueduct was founded by King John the Fifth in 1713, and completed by the Marquis of Pombal 1755. It resisted uninjured the shocks of the great earthquake in that year, although it was observed to oscillate considerably. The most conspicuous part of the work is that which crosses the Valley of Alcantra; it consists of thirty-two arches, with spans varying from fifty to one hundred and five feet; the crown of the centre arch is two hundred and twenty-five feet from the ground. The length of this portion is three thousand feet. The sources from which the supply of water is derived, are situated in the high ground in the neighbourhoods of Cintra and of Bellas—they are eighteen in number; one of these tributaries is conveyed by a culvert from a distance of fifteen miles. The main duct into which the tributary streams empty themselves, forms a tunnel of six feet wide, and seven feet high, ventilated by vertical shafts, at distances of a quarter of a mile apart. After passing over the great aqueduct, the main duct runs under ground for half a mile, is carried across the "Estrada do arco Cavalho" on seven arches of forty feet span each, on the south side of which it continues beneath the surface until it reaches the aqueduct of "Agua Livres" in Lisbon, and empties itself into the reservoir at its termination. This reservoir is sixty feet long, by fifty-four feet wide and twenty-seven feet deep. The quantity of water contained in it when the author took the measurements was sixty-four thousand eight hundred cubic feet. He was unable to obtain a section of the retaining walls, but supposed them to be about twenty-three feet in thickness. The pipes through which the water is distributed to the neighbouring fountains, are of earthenware and stone set in mortar. The velocity of its flow through the main duct is seventy-five feet per minute. The quantity discharged is about seventy-three thousand gallons in twenty-four hours during the winter months. The following particulars relating to the construction of the aqueduct, are translated from the documents preserved at the office of Public Works in Lisbon. From these it appeared, that no mechanical contrivances were used for hoisting the blocks of marble, but they were slung upon poles from men's shoulders, and carried up a series of inclined planes to the height required, though some of these blocks weighed upwards of three tons: and the cost of the entire aqueduct, which was about twenty-one miles long, with all the immediate and collateral works, and including the reservoir, was two millions and a half sterling.—*Athenaeum*.

**THE CEPHALOSCOPE.**—Mr. J. Harrison Curtis has recently invented a modification of Laennec's stethoscope, to which he has given the above name, and which is peculiarly applicable in the investigation and diagnosis of certain diseases of the organ of hearing, which are at present involved in some obscurity. The instrument consists of a cylinder of wood, about eight inches long, with an ear-piece in ivory at the upper end, and a large concave oval-piece at the other extremity, so constructed as to cover and completely enclose the external ear of the patient. The concavity of this last piece collects the sounds, whether normal or abnormal, which are heard within the organ, and transmits them through a tube to the ear of the examiner, who, by continual practice, will be enabled to discriminate the various sounds, just as the stethoscopist distinguishes those heard in the chest. This instrument, it is considered, will be of service in cases of tinnitus aurium, and affections of the Eustachian tube and tympanic cavity.

**NUTRITIVE POWER OF GLUTIN.**—M. Magendie, after feeding animals upon different kinds of food, states that gelatine, fibrin, albumen, when taken singly, do not possess the power of nourishing animals for any length of time; they always die. The reverse is the case however with gluten, (or the adhesive part of wheat,) upon which animals thrive well and long.

**SHOWER OF FISHES.**—A Fife journal states, that during a heavy thunder-storm, a number of small fish fell from the clouds at the Town-hill, near Dumfermline. They were in general from 2 to 3½ inches in length, and many of them alive among the grass, though they must have fallen from a considerable height.